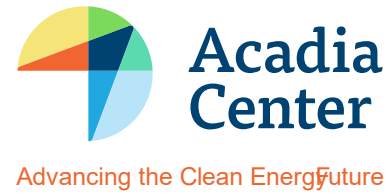


Testimony of Amy McLean

Connecticut Director and Senior Policy Advocate

Public Hearing, February 24, 2022



Before the Energy and Technology Committee

Honorable Chairpersons Arconti and Needleman, Vice Chairpersons Winfield and Allie- Brennan, Ranking Members Formica and Ferraro and Committee Members:

Acadia Center appreciates this opportunity to provide written testimony. Acadia Center is a nonprofit research and advocacy organization committed to advancing the clean energy future. Acadia Center advocates for an equitable clean energy future for Connecticut, tackling regulatory and legislative energy policy, transportation, energy efficiency, beneficial electrification, utility innovation, and renewable energy.

Testimony in support of the following bills:

S.B 10 An Act Climate Change Mitigation -To implement the Governor's budget recommendation.

H. B. No. 5117 An act Concerning Electric Vehicle Charging Stations.

SB. 90 an act Concerning consultant and procurement authority for the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

S.B 10 An Act Climate Change Mitigation -To implement the Governor's budget recommendation.

Acadia Center supports SB 10. Connecticut has been a catalyst for advances in clean energy and climate goals in the region. It was the first state to set greenhouse gas targets for 2050 and the first to create a stakeholder board to advance energy efficiency improvements. Connecticut set a target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 45% by 2030, and 80% by 2050 and Governor Lamont's [executive order No. 3](#) mandates that Connecticut's electricity sector reach zero emissions by 2040. It is also included in the Final 2020 Integrated Resources Plan (IRP)

Although Executive Order 3 requires zero carbon emissions from the electric sector by 2040, DEEP calls for legislation put this target into statute. Acadia Center agrees with DEEP that a statutory target for zero carbon electric grid by 2040 would complement the broader economy-wide decarbonization goals laid out in the Global Warming Solutions Act. By passing legislation, the state will ensure that the zero-carbon goal has the force of law necessary to drive the significant changes in the state's electric sector that are necessary in order to reach the 2040 goal and beyond.

Investments in zero-carbon electric grid mitigates climate change and improves the air quality and supports clean jobs. Under Public Act 21-43 covered renewable energy projects must pay the prevailing wage. Our state needs to invest in the clean energy workforce. Lastly it adds political momentum to the urgent need for reform of the regional electricity system overseen by ISO-NE.

H. B. No. 5117 An act Concerning Electric Vehicle Charging Stations.

Acadia Center supports HB 5117. Our organization has long worked on the issue of accessibility for all residents to be able to own electric vehicles.

This bill will require certain contracts affecting real estate to allow for the installation of electric vehicle charging stations and to require increased tenant access to electric vehicle charging stations in their dwelling units or common areas.

The vast majority of transportation pollution comes from vehicle tailpipes, with cars, trucks, and buses accounting for **82% of the transportation sector's CO₂ emissions**. In order to meaningfully and urgently address the transportation sector's contributions to climate change and poor air quality, a rapid transition from polluting vehicles to non-emitting electric vehicles (EVs) is necessary. **Vehicles powered by electricity** produce far less pollution than those running on gasoline or diesel, and as the electric grid gets cleaner, the benefits of electrification will grow. Acadia Center is working across a variety of forums to advance transportation electrification policies that are ambitious, equitable, and good for consumers and this bill will help us get there,

SB. 90 An Act Concerning Consultant and Procurement Authority for the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

Acadia Center supports SB 90. This bill addresses the need for the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to have the authority to utilize the services of consultants and to direct the electric distribution companies to enter into certain power purchase agreements. It is a companion piece of legislation to close the loop on legislation that was passed in the 2021 session.

In Connecticut the electric distribution companies need to enter into power purchase agreements for energy, capacity, transmission associated with energy, or environmental attributes or any combination thereof, associated with proposals selected for a period of not more than 20 years on behalf of customers of the states EDC customers.

Please support these important bills. Connecticut needs your help to make it the best state for all its residents and these bills are a critical step in the right direction.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

For more information:

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